



California Regional Water Quality Control Board San Diego Region



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<http://www.waterboards.ca.gov/sandiego>

July 8, 2009

CERTIFIED MAIL
7007 1490 0003 8753 5391

Mr. Alex Garcia
California Department of Transportation
District 11
4050 Taylor Street, MS 221
San Diego, California 92110

In reply refer to:
735798:oosibodu

Dear Mr. Garcia:

**SUBJECT: NOTICE OF VIOLATION NO. R9-2009-0116
DESCANSO MAINTENANCE STATION**

Enclosed is Notice of Violation (NOV) No. R9-2009-0116 for Descanso Maintenance Station. The basis for this NOV was the monitoring data contained in the following Self Monitoring Reports submitted by the California Department of Transportation (Caltrans) in accordance with Order No. R9-2006-0063.

FREQUENCY	PERIOD	REPORT DATE	DATE RECEIVED
Semiannual	January – June 2007	August 7, 2007	August 7, 2007
	July – December 2007	February 1, 2008	February 1, 2008
	January – June 2008	July 29, 2008	July 30, 2008
	July – December 2008	March 12, 2009	March 23, 2009

Please take steps to implement the follow-up actions necessary to ensure that the violations noted do not occur in the future. These violations subject Caltrans to possible further enforcement action by the California Regional Water Quality Control Board, San Diego Region (Regional Board), including administrative enforcement orders requiring Caltrans to cease and desist from violations, or to clean up waste and abate existing or threatened conditions of pollution or nuisance; administrative assessment of civil liability in amounts of up to \$5,000 per day per violation;¹ referral to the State Attorney General for injunctive relief; and referral to the District Attorney for criminal prosecution.

¹ Under authority of California Water Code section 13350.

Monitoring Requirement C.2 requires that two groundwater monitoring wells be located downgradient from the leach field to provide water quality information in shallow groundwater that may be impacted by wastewater discharges. The groundwater gradient has consistently been reported as southerly. The wells are located northeast, west, and southwest of the leach field. No well is located immediately downgradient of the leach field. Please submit a work plan proposing the location, drilling methods, and well construction details for a new monitoring well downgradient of the leach field.

The order requires monitoring of the top five feet of the first groundwater encountered. The screened intervals for all three existing wells are lower than water levels reported in the reviewed monitoring reports. Evaluate whether the existing wells with submerged screens are usable to provide groundwater samples representative of the top of the first water bearing zone. If the existing monitoring wells are not usable, include a proposal for replacement monitoring wells in the work plan. The work plan should be provided to the Regional Board no later than October 8, 2009.

In the subject line of any response, please include the requested "In reply refer to:" information located in the heading of this letter. For questions pertaining to the subject matter, please contact Olufisayo Osibodu at (858) 467-2952 or osibodu@waterboards.ca.gov.

Sincerely,



Julie Chan P.G.
Supervising Engineering Geologist
Groundwater Basins Branch

JC:rwm:clp

Order No. CIWQS	R9-2006-0063
Place ID	735798
WDID	9 0000001431
Reg. Measure No.	368370
Violations	828217, 828224 828230, 828235 828241, 828242 828251, 828252 858253, 858254 858256, 858257 858260, 858262 858265, 858266 858267, 858270 858272, 858273 858274, 858275 858276, 858280 858282

California Environmental Protection Agency

IN THE MATTER OF)	NOTICE OF VIOLATION
)	NO. R9-2009-0116
Mr. Alex Garcia)	
State of California Department of Transportation)	
District 11)	
4050 Taylor Street, MS 221)	In reply refer to:
San Diego, California 92110)	735798:oosibodu

Waste Discharge Requirements: Order No. R9-2006-0063
 Facility: Descanso Maintenance Station

YOU ARE HEREBY NOTIFIED THAT:

The State of California Department of Transportation (Caltrans) violated Order No. R9-2006-0063, *Waste Discharge Requirements for the California Department of Transportation Descanso Maintenance Station, San Diego County*. These violations subject Caltrans to possible further enforcement action by the California Regional Water Quality Control Board, San Diego Region (Regional Board), including administrative enforcement orders requiring the District to cease and desist from violations, or to clean up waste and abate existing or threatened conditions of pollution or nuisance; administrative assessment of civil liability in amounts of up to \$5,000 per day per violation;² referral to the State Attorney General for injunctive relief; and referral to the District Attorney for criminal prosecution.

The Regional Board reviewed the following quarterly and annual monitoring reports required by Order No. R9-2006-0063:

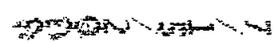
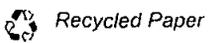
FREQUENCY	PERIOD	REPORT DATE	DATE RECEIVED
Semiannual	January – June 2007	August 7, 2007	August 7, 2007
	July – December 2007	February 1, 2008	February 1, 2008
	January – June 2008	July 29, 2008	July 30, 2008
	July – December 2008	March 12, 2009	March 23, 2009

A total of 25 effluent violations were identified in the above reports. The violations consisted of the following:

Summary of Violations

1. **Discharge Specification B.3** prohibits discharge of effluent from the septic tank containing total dissolved solids (TDS) at a daily maximum concentration greater

² Under authority of California Water Code section 13350.



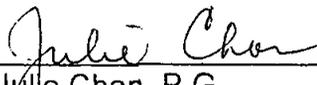
than 750 mg/L. The TDS result of 1,050 mg/L from June 2007 exceeded this limitation. The TDS result of 860 mg/L from June 2008 exceeded this limitation.

2. **Discharge Specification B.3** prohibits discharge of effluent from the septic tank containing TDS at a 12-month average concentration greater than 450 mg/L. The 12-month average TDS result of 856.5 mg/L reported for July 2006 to June 2007 exceeded this limitation. The 12-month average TDS result of 853.5 mg/L reported for January to December 2007 exceeded this limitation. The 12-month average TDS result of 758.5 mg/L reported for July 2007 to June 2008 exceeded this limitation. The 12-month average TDS result of 730 mg/L reported for January to December 2008 exceeded this limitation.
3. **Discharge Specification B.3** prohibits discharge of effluent from the septic tank containing total nitrogen at a daily maximum concentration greater than 20 mg/L. The total nitrogen result of 76 mg/L from June 2007 exceeded this limitation. The total nitrogen result of 89 mg/L from December 2007 exceeded this limitation. The total nitrogen result of 90 mg/L from June 2008 exceeded this limitation. The total nitrogen result of 62.3 mg/L from December 2008 exceeded this limitation.
4. **Discharge Specification B.3** prohibits discharge of effluent from the septic tank containing total nitrogen at a 12-month average concentration greater than 12 mg/L. The 12-month average total nitrogen result of 69.5 mg/L reported for July 2006 to June 2007 exceeded this limitation. The 12-month average total nitrogen result of 82.5 mg/L for January to December 2007 exceeded this limitation. The 12-month average total nitrogen result of 89.5 mg/L reported for July 2007 to June 2008 exceeded this limitation. The 12-month average total nitrogen result of 76.2 mg/L for January to December 2008 exceeded this limitation.
5. **Discharge Specification B.3** prohibits discharge of effluent from the septic tank containing methylene blue active substances (MBAS) at a daily maximum concentration greater than 0.75 mg/L. The MBAS result of .89 mg/L reported for June 2008 exceeded this limitation.
6. **Discharge Specification B.3** prohibits discharge of effluent from the septic tank containing MBAS at a 12-month average concentration greater than 0.45 mg/L. The 12-month average MBAS result of 0.595 mg/L reported for July 2007 to June 2008 exceeded this limitation.
7. **Discharge Specification B.3** prohibits discharge of effluent from the septic tank containing boron at a daily maximum concentration greater than 1.5 mg/L. The boron result of 1.69 mg/L from June 2007 exceeded this limitation. The boron result of 1.66 mg/L from December 2007 exceeded this limitation. The boron result of 2.74mg/L from June 2008 exceeded this limitation.

8. **Discharge Specification B.3** prohibits discharge of effluent from the septic tank containing boron at a 12-month average concentration greater than 450 mg/L. The 12-month average boron result of 1.01 mg/L reported for July 2006 to June 2007 exceeded this limitation. The 12-month average boron result of 1.675 mg/L reported for January to December 2007 exceeded this limitation. The 12-month average boron result of 2.2 mg/L reported for July 2007 to June 2008 exceeded this limitation. The 12-month average boron result of 2.0 mg/L reported for January to December 2008 exceeded this limitation.
9. **Monitoring Requirement F.1** requires semiannual reports to be submitted by August 1 or February 1. The January to June 2007 submittal was dated and received on August 7, 2007, past the due date. The July to December 2008 submittal was dated March 12, 2009 and received on March 23, 2009, past the due date.

Questions pertaining to the issuance of this Notice of Violation are to be directed to Olufisayo Osibodu at (858) 467-2952 or oosibodu@waterboards.ca.gov. Written correspondence should be directed to the following address:

Ms. Julie Chan
Supervising Engineering Geologist
California Regional Water Quality Control Board, San Diego Region
9174 Sky Park Court, Suite 100
San Diego, CA 92123-4340



Julie Chan, P.G.
Supervising Engineering Geologist
Groundwater Basins Branch

7/8/2009
DATE

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- Print your name and address on the reverse so that we can return the card to you.
- Attach this card to the back of the mailpiece, or on the front if space permits.

1. Article Addressed to:

Mr. Alex Garcia
California Dept. of Trans.
District 11
4050 Taylor St. MS221
San Diego CA 92110

2. Article Number
(Transfer from se

7007 1490 0003 8753 5391

J. Chen

COMPLETE THIS SECTION ON DELIVERY

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- Agent
- Addressee

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If YES, enter delivery address below: No

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PS Form 3811, February 2004

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Sent To
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4050 Taylor St. MS221
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PS Form 3800, August 2006
PS Form 3800, August 2006

See Reverse for Instructions